

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29

WHEREAS, the current government of Vietnam is a non-democratic, one-party system of government without rule of law that arbitrarily infringes upon the basic human and civil liberties of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Vietnamese-Americans were forced to flee Vietnam in fear of the government of Vietnam's campaign of retribution and persecution after the fall of Saigon in 1975; and

WHEREAS, the state of Missouri is home to 20,000 Vietnamese-Americans and residents of Vietnamese descent, and they have made substantial contributions to the cultural, religious, business and commerce of the state of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Vietnamese-Americans embrace the yellow with three red stripes heritage and freedom flag as the official symbol of the Vietnamese-American community; and

WHEREAS, dating back to 1948, the yellow flag with three red stripes has a long history in Vietnam and is a broader symbol of resilience, freedom, and democracy of and for Vietnamese-Americans and free Vietnamese around the world; and

WHEREAS, Vietnamese-Americans have shown their desire that the yellow flag with three red stripes be recognized as the official flag of the Vietnamese-American Community; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-Second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby formally recognize the yellow with three red stripes heritage and freedom flag as the official flag of the Vietnamese-American community in this state, and permits this flag to be displayed on any state-owned property, or at any state-controlled or sponsored Vietnamese-American event, or any public function organized by the Vietnamese-American community, subject to the permit requirements of the event's locality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Missouri General Assembly encourages county officials and city legislators in the state of Missouri to pass resolutions recognizing the yellow with three red stripes heritage and freedom flag as the official flag of the Vietnamese-American community.